Multipurpose Hall for Boxing, Wrestling, Judo, Karate, Taekwondo, Weight Lifting 100 bedded hostel (50 each for boys & girls) and Scientific Centre Administration Building and Staff quarters

(c) Question does not arise.

Promotion of sports in Himachal Pradesh

†1485. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of directions issued by Government to promote sports particularly for rural and hilly areas;

(b) whether any amount is likely to be sanctioned to Himachal Pradesh during 2003-04 for construction of stadium and sports field to promote sports; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider to sanction an amount of Rs. 5 lac for construction of a stadium at Senior Secondary School, Jangla in order to promote sports among children;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) "Sports" is a State subject and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to create sports facilities at various places, including hilly and rural areas, to promote sports at all levels. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in this direction, Central assistance, on receipt of viable proposals, is provided to the State Governments/Municipal Corporations/ Government schools etc. for creation of various sports facilities under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure. Central assistance is also provided to rural schools under this Ministry's Scheme of Grants to Rural Schools for Purchase of sports equipment and Developrnent of playground.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, Central Assistance of Rs. 37.43 lakhs for construction of Distt. Sports Complex at Una/playfields in government schools has been released to the Government of Himachal Pradesh during 2003-04 (as on 30.7.2003). For the same period, Central Assistance of Rs. 2.78 lakhs has also been released under our Scheme of Grants to Rural Schools for Purchase of sports equipment and development of playground to various rural schools of Himachal Pradesh.

(c) to (e) No Such proposal has been received during the last three years, from the Government of Himachal Pradesh. As per norms of the scheme, Central Assistance of upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs or 50% of approved estimate, which ever is less, is admissible for construction of Indoor Sports Hall in the Government Schools.

Welfare of Indian sports persons of past glory

1486. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken for the welfare of the Indian sports persons of past glory like an ex-hockey player whose story appeared in the media recently; and

(b) whether Government have extended any financial assistance to him; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Government of India have been implementing following schemes for the welfare of sports persons of yesteryears:

(i) Under the scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons monthly pension upto Rs. 2500/- per month and/or lump-sum financial assistance upto Rs. 40,000/- for medical treatment is sanctioned to outstanding Sportspersons living in indigent circumstances *i.e.*, whose monthly income is less than 3000/- from all sources.

(ii) Under the scheme of Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons life pension is admissible to